
Subject: Changing File Size with OPENU?

Posted by [Wayne Landsman](#) on Mon, 27 Oct 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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I always thought that when opening a file with OPENU that the file wouldn't change size, unless one wrote past the end of the file. But below I give an example of a file changing size, even though I never reached the end of the file.

I suspect this might be a IDL (or Solaris 2.6) bug, because if I uncomment the ;print,fstat(lun) line below, then the file size stays unchanged. But I don't trust my thought process right now after spending 3 hours trying to track down this bug. Anybody know if the behaviour in the example below is expected?

--Wayne Landsman
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```
; IDL Version 5.0.2 (sunos sparc)
```

```
;Create a 250000 byte file
```

```
openw,lun,'tester.dat',/get_lun
writeu,lun,bytarr(250000)
close,lun
```

```
;Make sure it really is 250000 bytes
```

```
spawn,'ls -l tester.dat'
;-rw-r--r--  1 landsman  250000 Oct 26 08:13 tester.dat
```

```
;Now open file for update and move
; 14400 + 2400 + 230000 = 246800 bytes into the file
```

```
openu,lun,'tester.dat'
point_lun,lun,14400 ;Offset to 14400 bytes
b = bytarr(2400)
readu,lun,b ;Now read 2400 bytes
;print,fstat(lun)
writeu,lun,bytarr(230000) ;Now write 230000 bytes
free_lun,lun
```

spawn,'ls -l tester.dat' ;And file has changed size!!

-rw-r--r-- 1 landsman 254992 Oct 26 08:13 tester.dat
